

Questions

What do you expect from church?
What do you love about your church?

Introduction

We are to love the church because the church is a special place, a place for the name of God. King Solomon knew that the building that he built could not house all of God, for God is Omnipresent. The church is a special place for the name of God so we know where to come and worship Him.

(I Kings 8:27-29) *But will God indeed dwell on the earth? behold, the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house that I have builded? (28) Yet have thou respect unto the prayer of thy servant, and to his supplication, O Lord my God, to hearken unto the cry and to the prayer, which thy servant prayeth before thee to day: (29) That thine eyes may be open toward this house night and day, even toward the place of which thou hast said, My name shall be there: that thou mayest hearken unto the prayer which thy servant shall make toward this place.*

The Church – A Place For Worship

I love the church because I love to worship the Lord with other believers. The Lord desires our worship, and He is looking for a people who will come to church; and worship Him in spirit and in truth.

(Psalm 134:1-2) *“Behold, bless ye the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord, which by night stand in the house of the Lord. Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the Lord”*

(Isaiah 56:7) *“Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people.”*

(John 4:23) *“But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.”*

The Church – A Place To Hear God's Word

I love the church because it is the place where I hear God's holy word. As we hear the word of God, we are strengthened in our faith.

(Romans 10:17) *“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”*

(1 Corinthians 1:18) *For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.*

(1 Corinthians 1:21) *For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.*

The Church – A Place To Draw Closer To God

I love the church because I love to feel God's presence.

(Psalm 73:28) *“But it is good for me to draw near to God: I have put my trust in the Lord GOD, that I may declare all thy works.”*

(Psalm 145:18) *“The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon*

him in truth.”

(James 4:8) “Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.”

It is good to draw close to the Lord. As we draw close to Him, and call upon Him in truth, then He is near. That is why we come to church, to worship the Lord in spirit and in truth; and to hear His holy word. As we worship Him, and apply His word to our lives; we then become cleaned by our obedience to the word. As we do this, we are drawing closer to the Lord.

The Church – A Place For Salvation

I love the church because here we receive salvation as we respond to God’s Word and presence.

(Acts 2:47) “Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.”

(Isaiah 45:21-22) “Tell ye, and bring them near; yea, let them take counsel together: who hath declared this from ancient time? who hath told it from that time? have not I the Lord? and there is no God else beside me; a just God and a Saviour; there is none beside me. Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else.”

The Church – A Place For Miracles

I love the church because this is where we receive God’s power for the miracles that we need.

(Mark 16:20) “And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.”

(2 Corinthians 3:17) “Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.”

As we pray and preach the word, then the Lord is in our midst; and where the Lord is, there is liberty, healings and miracles.

Let us draw close to the Lord with our worship. Let us draw close to the Lord by being obedient to His word. And as we do this, we will find salvation and miracles. A church is a place for worship, preaching, drawing closer to the Lord, salvation, and miracles. We are to love the church because this is where we come to receive God’s Word and His spiritual blessings.